United Nations S/PV.5769

Security Council

Sixty-second year

Provisional

5769th meeting

Thursday, 25 October 2007, 3.30 p.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Christian	(Ghana)
Members:	Belgium	Mr. Verbeke
	China	Mr. Liu Zhenmin
	Congo	Mr. Okio
	France	Mr. Renié
	Indonesia	Mr. Natalegawa
	Italy	Mr. Spatafora
	Panama	Mr. Suescum
	Peru	Mr. Chávez
	Qatar	Mr. Al-Henzab
	Russian Federation	Mr. Dolgov
	Slovakia	Mr. Burian
	South Africa	Ms. Qwabe
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Johnston
	United States of America	Mr. DeLaurentis

Agenda

Consideration of the draft report of the Security Council to the General Assembly

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-154A.

07-56355 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 3.35 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Consideration of the draft report of the Security Council to the General Assembly

The President: The Security Council will now proceed to the consideration of its annual report to the General Assembly, for the period from 1 August 2006 to 31 July 2007.

Members of the Council have before them the draft report as circulated by the Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs on 4 October 2007, and a corrigendum thereto.

The introduction to the draft report was prepared by the delegation of China with the participation of other members of the Council, and the body of the report was prepared by the Secretariat. I should like to express appreciation to China and the Secretariat for their respective contributions.

I should also like to point out that the format of the draft report now before the Council corresponds to the provisions initially set out in the note by the President of 22 May 2002 (S/2002/199) and now incorporated in the note by the President of 19 July 2006 (S/2006/507).

The floor is open for those members who wish to speak.

Mr. Burian (Slovakia): At the outset, I would like to express my delegation's appreciation to the delegation of China for its efforts in preparing the introduction to this year's Security Council report to the General Assembly. We are very grateful to the Chinese delegation for its hard work, high degree of professionalism and very constructive approach. In this context, Slovakia is pleased to say that we see this year's introduction to the annual report as a solid text that reflects well the complex and wide-ranging work of the Security Council. Let me also express our thanks to the Secretariat for its hard work throughout the year in making sure that the entire annual report contains all the necessary facts and data.

In recent years, we have been experiencing an increase in the number of Security Council agenda items, meetings and decisions. That is a logical reflection of the increased role and involvement of the Security Council in addressing threats and challenges to international peace and security. We are convinced that this should also go hand in hand with an increase in the Security Council's relevance, authority and effectiveness. All of these things are closely connected with how the Security Council's work is perceived and understood on the outside — first and foremost within the General Assembly, of course.

In that context, Slovakia strongly believes that the Security Council's annual report to the General Assembly is a very important document and should by no means be just a routine exercise of an administrative or statistical nature.

Mr. President, the technical and procedural aspects of the preparation of the annual report, as you mentioned, are covered in section XI of the annex to the note by the President of the Security Council of 19 July 2006 (S/2006/507), which contains language recollected from previous Security Council documents. In our view, this provides very useful guidance. However, we believe we need to go further in our efforts in this regard and concentrate more on the substance of the report and on key political messages about the important work of the Security Council.

Also, as the current Chairman of the Security Council's Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions, I would like to take this opportunity to invite all colleagues to join forces and to redouble their efforts in this very important area. We truly believe that further progress can be achieved, building upon this year's positive experience under the able leadership of the Chinese delegation. Moreover, there are a few practical ideas that will be further discussed in the Informal Working Group. I would like to invite all my colleagues to join the efforts to further improve the work on the preparation of the introduction.

Mr. Liu Zhenmin (China) (*spoke in Chinese*): First of all, Mr. President, I thank you for your introduction of the draft report. I also thank the Secretariat for its efforts in preparing the report, and I appreciate the statement made by Ambassador Burian a moment ago.

All members of the Council had already reached agreement on the draft report prior to this meeting, and we look forward to its adoption by the Security Council. Considering that the General Assembly will

examine the report in early November, we hope that it can be printed quickly, so as to give non-members of the Council more time to read it.

As President of the Council in July, China was in charge of drafting the report's introduction. During the drafting process, all members of the Council made valuable contributions, and the Secretariat also provided assistance. China wishes to express its thanks to all of them.

This process will have enabled the Security Council to submit to the General Assembly a report that is accurate, balanced and rich in information. We hope that the report will also be conducive to enhancing transparency in the work of the Security Council.

With regard to the question of how to further enhance the quality of the annual report in the future, I share the views of Ambassador Burian and think that this question should be one element for consideration during the preparation of next year's report of the Council. Taking into account past practice and the actual work of each year, and drawing upon our collective wisdom, we should be able to find a way to improve our work on the report. China is also willing to share the experience we have gained in drafting the introduction.

Finally, I propose that the Security Council adopt the draft report.

The President: There are no other speakers on my list. It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the adoption of its annual report.

May I take it that the draft report, as corrected, is adopted by the Council?

There being no objection, it is so decided.

This decision will be reflected in a note by the President of the Security Council to be issued as document S/2007/627.

The Security Council has thus concluded its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 3.50 p.m.

United Nations S/PV.5770

Security Council

Distr.: General
26 October 2007

Original: English

Official communiqué of the 5770th (closed) meeting of the SecurityCouncil

Held in private at Headquarters, New York, on Friday, 26 October 2007, at 10.05 a.m.

In accordance with rule 55 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the following communiqué was issued through the Secretary-General in place of a verbatim record:

"On 26 October 2007, the Security Council, pursuant to resolution 1353 (2001), annex II, sections A and B, held its 5770th meeting in private with the troop-contributing countries to the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara.

"The Security Council and the troop-contributing countries heard a briefing under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure by Mr. Julian Harston, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara.

"Members of the Council, Mr. Harston and representatives of participating troop-contributing countries had an exchange of views."

07-56596 (E) 261007

United Nations S/PV.5771

Security Council

Distr.: General
29 October 2007

Original: English

Official communiqué of the 5771st (closed) meeting of the Security Council

Held in private at Headquarters, New York, on Monday, 29 October 2007, at 10 a.m.

In accordance with rule 55 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the following communiqué was issued through the Secretary-General in place of a verbatim record:

"On 29 October 2007, the Security Council, pursuant to resolution 1353 (2001), annex II, sections A and B, held its 57th meeting in private with the troop-contributing countries to the United Nations Mission in the Sudan.

"The Security Council and the troop-contributing countries heard a briefing under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure by Mr. Jean-Marie Guéhenno, Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations.

"Members of the Council, Mr. Guéhenno and representatives of participating troop-contributing countries had an exchange of views."

07-56809 (E) 291007

United Nations S/PV.5772

Security Council

Sixty-second year

Provisional

5772nd meeting

Monday, 29 October 2007, 12.45 p.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Christian	(Ghana)
Members:	Belgium	Mr. Belle
	China	Mr. Li Junhua
	Congo	Mr. Biabaroh-Iboro
	France	Mr. Ripert
	Indonesia	Mr. Kleib
	Italy	Mr. Mantovani
	Panama	Mr. Suescum
	Peru	Mr. Pérez
	Qatar	Ms. Al-Thani
	Russian Federation	Mr. Dolgov
	Slovakia	Mr. Matulay
	South Africa	Mr. Kumalo
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Johnston
	United States of America	Mr. DeLaurentis

Agenda

The situation in Côte d'Ivoire

Letter dated 17 October 2007 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1572 (2004) concerning Côte d'Ivoire addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2007/611)

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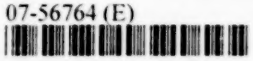
07-56764 (E)



The meeting was called to order at 12.45 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Côte d'Ivoire

Letter dated 17 October 2007 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1572 (2004) concerning Côte d'Ivoire addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2007/611)

The President: I should like to inform the Council that I have received a letter from the representative of Côte d'Ivoire, in which he requests to be invited to participate in the consideration of the item on the Council's agenda. In conformity with the usual practice, I propose, with the consent of the Council, to invite that representative to participate in the consideration of the item, without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Djédjé (Côte d'Ivoire) took a seat at the Council table.

The President: The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

Members of the Council have before them document S/2007/633, which contains the text of a draft resolution submitted by France. I also wish to draw the attention of members to document S/2007/611, which contains the text of a letter dated 17 October 2007 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1572 (2004) concerning Côte d'Ivoire addressed to the President of the Security Council, transmitting the report of the Group of Experts on Côte d'Ivoire.

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it. Unless I hear any objection, I shall put the draft resolution to the vote now.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Belgium, China, Congo, France, Ghana, Indonesia, Italy, Panama, Peru, Qatar, Russian Federation, Slovakia, South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

The President: There were 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 1782 (2007).

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council will remain seized of the matter.

The meeting rose at 12.50 p.m.

United Nations S/PV.5773

Security Council

Sixty-second year

Provisional

5773rd meeting

Wednesday, 31 October 2007, 3.25 p.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Christian	(Ghana)
Members:	Belgium	Mr. Belle
	China	Mr. Li Junhua
	Congo	Mr. Okio
	France	Mr. Lacroix
	Indonesia	Mr. Kleib
	Italy	Mr. Spatafora
	Panama	Mr. Suescum
	Peru	Mr. Chávez
	Qatar	Ms. Al-Thani
	Russian Federation	Mr. Dolgov
	Slovakia	Mr. Matulay
	South Africa	Mr. Kumalo
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Johnston
	United States of America	Mr. Khalilzad

Agenda

The situation concerning Western Sahara

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation concerning Western Sahara (S/2007/619)

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the *Official Records of the Security Council*. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-154A.

07-57264 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 3.25 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation concerning Western Sahara

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation concerning Western Sahara (S/2007/619)

The President: I should like to inform the Council that I have received a letter from the representative of Spain, in which he requests to be invited to participate in the consideration of the item on the Council's agenda. In conformity with the usual practice, I propose, with the consent of the Council, to invite that representative to participate in the consideration of the item without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Yáñez-Barnuevo (Spain) took the seat reserved for him at the side of the Council Chamber.

The President: The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

Members of the Council have before them document S/2007/637, which contains the text of a draft resolution submitted by France, the Russian Federation, Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

Members of the Council also have before them document S/2007/619, which contains the report of the Secretary-General on the situation concerning Western Sahara.

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it. Unless I hear any objection, I shall put the draft resolution to the vote now.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

I first give the floor to the representative of South Africa.

Mr. Kumalo (South Africa): Once again, the Council is being asked to vote on a draft resolution that will not include any mention of human rights violations in Western Sahara. The Secretary-General, in his observations and recommendations contained his report on Western Sahara, writes:

> "I would like to repeat my call (S/2006/817, para. 60 and S/2007/202, para. 52) to the parties to remain engaged in continuous and constructive dialogue with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights with a view to ensuring respect for the human rights of the people of Western Sahara. I would like to reiterate that, although MINURSO does not have the mandate or resources to address this issue, the United Nations remains committed to upholding international human rights standards." (*S/2007/619, para. 67*)

The least that would have been expected from this Council would have been for it to support the Secretary-General in his warning to the parties, contained now in his past three consecutive reports, to respect the human rights of the people of Western Sahara. But the Council, which is very vocal about human rights issues in other parts of the world, has decided to be silent on the human rights of the people of Western Sahara. This double standard is the reason that people sometimes do not take the decisions of this Council seriously.

My delegation is not only surprised but also wishes to record its deep regret that, even worse, the Council could not even welcome the report of the Secretary-General, presumably because the Secretary-General dared to raise the issue of the human rights violations against the Saharawi people. Yet, in this Council we routinely welcome reports of the Secretary-General that are presented to the Council. This time, however, some did not like what was in the Secretary-General's report on Western Sahara. The Council therefore finds itself paralysed and made to appear as if we are choosing one side or the other on this very difficult issue.

We also continue to be amazed by the relentless attempts by some members of this Council to try to describe the Moroccan proposal as being a "serious and credible effort to move the resolution forward". The fact is that the Moroccan proposal for autonomy is a unilateral attempt to prevent the Saharawi people from

claiming their right to self-determination, which is enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. Two plans have been presented to the Council: one by the Frente POLISARIO and another by the Kingdom of Morocco. Those are the plans that should be the basis for a negotiation by the parties. As we have often stated, the only solution for Western Sahara is a negotiated settlement. So any attempt to place one proposal over the other would undermine the negotiations process and would be counterproductive to the spirit of future negotiations based on the two proposals.

The Council should remain objective without pre-empting any final status of the negotiations. While the parties are continuing to engage without any preconditions, we believe that it is important for the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) to remain on the ground and for the Council to support the peace process.

The Secretary-General asked, in his report, that the Council extend the mandate of MINURSO for a further six months and provide support for the negotiating process. We believe that that request by the Secretary-General is important enough for us to support draft resolution S/2007/637 in spite of our reservations. My delegation will vote in favour of the draft resolution in the hope that through the negotiating process and with the support of MINURSO, the people of Western Sahara can one day achieve their right to self-determination, because that may be the only way for them not only to be in charge of their lives, but even to protect their own human rights.

The President: I now put to the vote the draft resolution contained in document S/2007/637.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Belgium, China, Congo, France, Ghana, Indonesia, Italy, Panama, Peru, Qatar, Russian Federation, Slovakia, South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

The President: There were 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 1783 (2007).

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 3.40 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 3.35 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan

Report of the Secretary-General on the Sudan (S/2007/624)

The President: The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The Security Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

Members of the Council have before them document S/2007/642, which contains the text of a draft resolution submitted by Belgium, France, Italy, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

Members of the Council also have before them the report of the Secretary-General on the Sudan, document S/2007/624.

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it. Unless I hear any objection, I shall put the draft resolution to the vote now.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Belgium, China, Congo, France, Ghana, Indonesia, Italy, Panama, Peru, Qatar, Russian Federation, Slovakia, South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

The President: There were 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 1784 (2007).

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Security Council will remain seized of the matter.

The meeting rose at 3.40 p.m.